

REMARKS

Claims 17-19 have been withdrawn and 23-28 have been canceled. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application to capture the subject matter recited in canceled claims 23-28. Claims 15, 16, and 20-22 remain pending. Further examination and reconsideration of the presently claimed application are respectfully requested.

Section 121 Restriction

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, Applicant elects Group I claims 15-22 and cancels non-elected Group II claims 23-28.

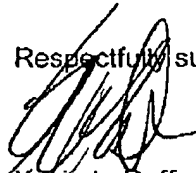
The Examiner further requested Applicant to elect a single species of claims directed to the embodiments of the implant plate set forth in Figs. 1A, 3A, 5, 13, 14, and 15. In response thereto, Applicant hereby provisionally elects the species of Fig. 1A, on which generic claims 15 and species claims 16-19 read. It is believed that claims 15, 16, and 20-22 read specifically on Fig. 1A. This provisional election of the claims is made without traverse. Applicant respectfully requests that upon allowance of claim 15, the remaining species set forth in claims 17-19 as well as other possible added species claims be allowed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.141(a).

CONCLUSION

The present amendment and response is believed to be a complete response to the issues raised in the Office Action mailed November 10, 2005. If the Examiner has any questions, comments or suggestions, the undersigned attorney earnestly requests a telephone conference.

No fees are required for filing this amendment; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Daffer McDaniel, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-3268/5858-00800.

Respectfully submitted,



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